

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 EB-07 AID-05 HEW-06 CU-04

COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 INT-05 AGR-10 STR-04 FEAE-00

OES-05 FRB-01 BIB-01 /129 W
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R 071115Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7069

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BANGKOK 13247

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, CH

SUBJ: KHUKRIT ON CHINA

PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 6
AT DON MUANG AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM PEKING. FOLLOWING
IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS OF HIS REMARKS
ON CHINA: BEGIN EXCERPTS:

REPORTER: WHAT RESULTS WERE OBTAINED FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL RELATIONS?

KHUKRIT: IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT ON
ECONOMY AND POLITICS, BECAUSE IT IS NECESSARY TO BE CALM
AND PATIENT. IN OTHER WORDS, POLITICAL SUCCESS MUST COME
FIRST, AND THAT MEANS THAT WE HAVE ISSUED A JOINT COMMU-
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NIQUE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THIS IS

SUCCESS ACHIEVED AS A FIRST STEP. NOW THAT RELATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED, BOTH SIDES MUST COOPERATE IN PROMOTING CLOSER TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THAILAND AND CHINA, AND THE WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS IS BY THE EXCHANGE OF VARIOUS MISSIONS, SUCH AS MILITARY, EDUCATIONAL, SPORTS, AND CULTURAL. THIS IS THE WAY TO CREATE AND PROMOTE INCREASINGLY GOOD AND CLOSE FRIENDLY RELATIONS.

BENEFICIAL POLITICAL RESULTS OBTAINED AT THIS FIRST STAGE ALSO ARE FROM THE PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE MADE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT AND CHINESE POLITICAL LEADERS. FOR INSTANCE, FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI AND I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY DURING OUR VISIT TO CHINA TO HAVE INTIMATE PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH CHINESE POLITICAL LEADERS, AND THOUGH THEY ARE PERSONAL RELATIONS THEY HAVE SPECIAL MEANING ALSO, BECAUSE THEY ARE RELATIONS BETWEEN PERSONS IN POSITIONS TO MAKE ANY POLITICAL DECISIONS CONCERNING THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. I THEREFORE FEEL THAT THERE IS A WAY FOR THE THAI GOVERNMENT AND CHINESE POLITICAL LEADERS TO HOLD TALKS AND TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS IN A FRIENDLY AND INTIMATE MANNER; THAT THEY WILL NOT BE FAR APART AS IN THE PAST.

IN REGARD TO ECONOMIC RELATIONS, WE WILL START VISITING EACH OTHER, AND THERE WILL BE TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. DURING SOME NEGOTIATIONS HELD ALREADY DURING OUR VISIT, CHINA SAID IT IS READY TO BUY SOME GOODS FROM US IMMEDIATELY, SUCH AS RAW RUBBER, MOLASSES AND JUTE, THAT WILL BUY UP ALL SUPPLIES OF JUTE WE HAVE FOR SALE AT ONCE. WE WILL THEREFORE HAVE TO CHECK UP ON THE SUPPLIES OF JUTE WE CAN EXPORT. WE NEGOTIATED THE SALE OF RICE ALSO, BUT THEY INFORMED US THAT PURCHASE OF RICE DEPENDS ON THEIR NATIONAL PLAN. CHINA HAS AN ECONOMIC PLAN, WHICH SPECIFIES ITS PLAN FOR THIS YEAR AND NEXT YEAR ALREADY, BUT IT WILL BE TAKEN UP FOR REVIEW AND RECONSIDERATION; THEREFORE THERE MIGHT BE A WAY FOR IT TO BUY OUR RICE. IN ADDITION, THERE MIGHT BE OTHER GOODS WHICH WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SELL TO CHINA, AND ON WHICH FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD. OUR VISIT WAS A VERY SHORT ONE, THEREFORE NO DETAILED TALKS COULD BE HELD. ON ITS SIDE, CHINA IS READY TO SELL OIL TO US, EITHER CRUDE OIL FOR US TO REFINER OURSELVES OR REFINED OIL, SUCH AS HIGH-SPEED DIESEL OIL.

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IT IS ALSO READY TO SELL US OTHER GOODS WE NEED AND WHICH IT IS ABLE TO SELL US.

REPORTER: SINCE YOU MET CHAIRMAN MAO FOR AN UNUSUALLY LONG TIME, COULD YOU DISCLOSE WHAT SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS YOU HAD WITH HIM?

KHUKRIT: THAT WAS A TETE-A-TETE MEETING, AND MATTERS

DISCUSSED DURING SUCH MEETINGS ARE NOT DISCLOSED.

REPORTER: WAS IT ON MATTERS THAT WILL BE BENEFICIAL FOR THAILAND?

KHUKRIT: OF COURSE. OTHERWISE THE MEETING WOULD NOT HAVE LASTED AS LONG AS ONE HOUR.

REPORTER: WHAT ACTIVITIES WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN OBTAIN EXCELLENT RESULTS IN RED CHINA WILL YOU INTRODUCE FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THAILAND?

KHUKRIT: I DIDN'T GO TO RED CHINA IN ORDER TO CONTINUE MY STUDIES THERE.

REPORTER: I MEANT POLICY, WHICH YOU SAW DURING YOUR VISIT.

KHUKRIT: I DIDN'T GO THERE ON A STUDY TOUR. THERE'S NO REASON AT ALL FOR ANYTHING FROM CHINA TO BE INTRODUCED HERE. I WENT TO ESTABLISH AND PROMOTE RELATIONS OF AMITY. WE ARE FRIENDS NOW, SO THAT SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT. I DON'T APPROVE BRINGING ANYTHING BACK THAT WOULD MAKE THAILAND BECOME RED CHINA.

REPORTER: WILL TRADE BE OPERATED AT THE LEVEL OF STATE TO STATE, OR WILL PRIVATE TRADE BE PERMITTED?
WHITEHOUSE

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AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
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AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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KHUKRIT: WE GREE FOR IT TO BE TRADE AT THE LEVEL OF STATE
TO STATE. I FEEL THAT THAT WILL BE MORE CONVENIENT FOR
CHINA.

REPORTER: WHEN WILL AMBASSADORS BE EXCHANGED?

KHUKRIT: THAT DEPENDS ON THE CONVENIENCE AND PREPAREDNESS
OF BOTH SIDES. NO DEFINITE DATE HAS BEEN FIXED YET.

REPORTER: REGARDING POLITICAL POLICY WHICH CONCERNS OPPO-
SITION TO COMMUNISTS... WHAT CONSIDERATION WILL BE PAID TO
IT?

KHUKRIT: I TOLD NEWSMEN IN HONG KONG THAT AFFAIRS OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY CONCERN THE COMMUNIST PARTY, THAT AFFAIRS
OF THE GOVERNMENT CONCERN THE GOVERNMENT. CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-
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TUNG IS OF THE SAME VIEW; THEREFORE NOTHING IS CHANGED.

REPORTER: DID CHINESE LEADERS MAKE ANY PROMISES TO THAI-
LAND ON ANY SUBJECT?

KHUKRIT: PROMISE WHAT?

REPORTER: IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU ARE ABLE TO DISCLOSE.

KHUKRIT: THEY PROMISED THAT CHINA WILL ALWAYS BE OUR FRIEND.
THEY PROMISED THAT THEY WILL TELL THEIR CHILDREN AND GRAND-
CHILDREN THAT CHINA DOES NOT WISH TO DOMINATE ANY OTHER
COUNTRY, AND THEY REQUESTED ME TO TELL THAT TO MY CHILDREN
AND GRANDCHILDREN, THIS IS A PROMISE THAT IS DEFINITE AND
CLEAR.

REPORTER: DID YOU CONCLUDE ANY SECRET AGREEMENT?

KHUKRIT: DEFINITELY NOT.

REPORTER: COULD YOU PLEASE DISCLOSE SOMETHING REGARDING YOUR

MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG? THE REPORTS WE RECEIVED ARE SAID TO BE INACCURATE.

KHUKRIT: WELL, I CAN DISCLOSE THAT HE SHOWED GREAT KINDNESS TO ME, SUCH AS AN ELDERLY PERSON SHOWS TO A MUCH YOUNGER PERSON. HE WAS MOST KIND TO ME PERSONALLY, AND HE TALKED WITH ME IN A MOST FRIENDLY MANNER. HE IS A PERSON WHO POSSESSES GREAT KNOWLEDGE OF AND WIDE EXPERIENCE IN WORLD AFFAIRS, AND I FEEL I BENEFITTED FROM MY TALK WITH HIM, AND I DEEPLY APPRECIATED THE KINDNESS HE SHOWED ME PERSONALLY.

REPORTER: UP TO THE PRESENT, DO YOU FEEL CONFIDENT THAT NOW WE HAVE SIGNED THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE THAT THERE WILL BE NO INTERFERENCE?

KHUKRIT: CONFIDENT OF WHAT?

REPORTER: THAT CHINA WILL NOT INTERFERE, THAT IT WILL NOT BREAK ITS PROMISE.

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KHUKRIT: I FEEL CERTAIN.

REPORTER: ARE YOU STILL CERTAIN?

KHUKRIT: I FEEL FULL CONFIDENCE.

REPORTER: HOW WAS IT THAT THE EXPRESSION ABOUT BANDITS LEAKED OUT?

KHUKRIT: IT DIDN'T LEAK OUT. THERE WAS NOTHING TO LEAK OUT.

REPORTER: WHY WAS THERE SUCH A REPORT?

KHUKRIT: WHY WAS THERE SUCH A REPORT?

KHUKRIT: I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT, BECAUSE I NEVER MADE SUCH A STATEMENT, THEREFORE TO SAY THAT THE REPORT LEAKED OUT IS NOT CORRECT. IF THERE IS NO WATER IN A BOWL, HOW CAN IT LEAK OUT? I ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY RUMOR FABRICATED AND SPREAD.

REPORTER: WILL COMMUNIST TERRORISTS BE REDUCED?

KHUKRIT: THAT IS ANOTHER MATTER ALTOGETHER. IT DOES NOT CONCERN THE SUBJECT ON WHICH WE WENT TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS AT ALL. I FEEL CERTAIN THAT CHINA WILL HAVE A MUCH BETTER ATTITUDE TOWARD US THAN IN THE PAST, THAT IT WILL BE FRIEND-

LY. WHAT IS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE IS THAT I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH CHINESE LEADERS AND TO BE ON VERY CLOSE AND INTIMATE TERMS WITH THEM FOR 4-5 DAYS, AND BEFORE I LEFT WE HAD BECOME FRIENDS WHO WERE JOKING AND TEASING EACH OTHER. WHEN PERSONS HAVE BECOME AS CLOSE AND INTIMATE AS THAT, SHOULD ANYTHING OCCUR IN THE FUTURE, THEY WOULD HOLD TALKS AND CONSULTATIONS BEFORE EITHER SIDE MAKES ANY DEFINITE DECISION WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN.

REPORTER: IS IT YOUR VIEW THAT CHINA IS DISPLAYING SINCERITY TOWARD US?

KHUKRIT: I HAVE WATCHED THEM AND I BELIEVE THEY ARE SINCERE,
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BECAUSE THE PERSONS I MET ARE ELDERLY PERSONS, AND THEY HAVE SEEN MUCH AND POSSES WIDE EXPERIENCE. WHEN WE POSSESS THIS KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING THEM, WE STUDY THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD US AND THEIR METHOD OF HOLDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH US. THIS SHOWS CLEARLY THAT THEY ARE SINCERE. FURTHERMORE THEY KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT US, KNOWLEDGE THEY DO NOT CONCEAL, AND WHEN THEY TALK ON ANY SUBJECT THEY SPEAK FRANKLY. WHEN PERSONS TALK WITH SINCERITY, WHEN THEY TALK FRANKLY, WHEN THEY ARE IN AGREEMENT ON ANY SUBJECT, THEY ARE SINCERE.

REPORTER: DID YOU EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE VICE PREMIER ALSO?

KHUKRIT: I EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO PING. I DID NOT DARE TO INVITE PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI, BECAUSE HE IS VERY OLD AND HE IS IN BAD HEALTH.
WHITEHOUSE

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